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Working Party on Passive Safety

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Item 7 of the provisional agenda
Regulation No. 16 (Safety-belts)

Proposal for Supplement 6 to the 06 series of amendments to Regulation No. 16 (Safety-belts)

Submitted by the expert from the European Association of Automotive Suppliers *

The text reproduced below was produced by the expert from European Association of Automotive Suppliers (CLEPA) to clarify the installation of different light colours on the buckle and to improve its visibility in dark conditions for the wearer, and even perhaps to rescue occupants. The modification to the current text of the UN Regulation No. 16, are marked in bold for new characters.

* In accordance with the programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee for 2012–2016 (ECE/TRANS/224, para. 94 and ECE/TRANS/2012/12, programme activity 02.4), the World Forum will develop, harmonize and update Regulations in order to enhance the performance of vehicles. The present document is submitted in conformity with that mandate.

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I. Proposal

Paragraph 6.2.2.2., amend to read:

"6.2.2.2. ....The buckle release area shall be coloured red. No other part of the buckle shall be of this color. When the seat is occupied, red warning light in any part of the buckle is permitted if it is switched off after the occupant has buckled. **Light on the buckle at a colour other than red may not be switched off after the occupant has buckled.**"

II. Justification

The current proposal aims at allowing the installation of different light colours on the buckle to improve its visibility in dark conditions for the wearer and even to rescue occupants. Moreover, it addresses an alignment of ambient light design or strategies in modern cars with a functional element of an occupant protection device to support its visual exposition in the vehicle compartment. It aims to better showing the location and appearance of the orientation of seat belt buckles.